

Bible Study - Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 21

Pastor Charles A. Hall – October 5th, 2023

Theme: Living for God, Not the World

“Living for God, Not the World” means that we as true Christians and believers of Jesus Christ no longer place our own selfish desires, needs, and wants above our relationship with God, making God’s desires and will a priority in our life. This means that what God wants for us, always supersedes, what we want for ourselves in any area of our life.

Foundational scriptures for our theme:

- 2 Corinthians 6:17
- 1 John 2:15-17

Prior Lessons:

- Lesson # 1 Living for God not the world
- Lesson # 2 How do we live for God, stop living for the world, and why is it so difficult.
- Lesson # 3 The difficulties and challenges of living for God
- Lesson # 4 The Struggle Within
- Lesson # 5 The Influence Without
- Lesson # 6 Living Spiritually
- Lesson # 7 Being able to recognize God's Voice
- Lesson # 8 Staying Committed to your faith
- Lesson # 9 Avoiding the pitfalls as we journey through this life
- Lesson # 10 Allowing the power of God to pick us up after a fall
- Lesson # 11 Living for God Without emulating the World
- Lesson # 12 Not Being Ashamed of Who You are In Christ
- Lesson # 13 Setting Aside Those Things that throw Us Off Course
- Lesson # 14 Living Among them without Being one of Them
- Lesson # 15 Living for God Requires a Personal Paradigm Shift
- Lesson # 16 Living for God, Requires a Personal Sacrifice
- Lesson # 17 To Live For God, We Must be Willing To Be different
- Lesson # 18 Being Able To Discern God's Will From Our Personal Desires
- Lesson # 19 To Live for God, We Must know Who We Are in Christ Jesus
- Lesson # 20 To Live for God, We Must Be Standard Bearer Of Righteousness

Theme: Trusting God When things Look Hopeless

Trust means: To have confidence in, having the assurance that leads to action. Trust in the Lord is a faith that lets us to serve boldly. To be in a place where all of your knowledge, understanding, wisdom and will is totally committed to the actions produced by the faith, and assurance of the power of God.

- Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. (6) In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

If we truly desire to live for God, and not be like those in the world, then we must reach a point in our daily walk where we truly trust God. I am not just speaking about trusting Him when everything in our life is going well, and it appears that we are in a season of abundance. A season of

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abundance is when God has either granted, or allowed us to have the desires of our hearts. What I am really referring to, is trusting, and relying on God during a season when it seems like everything is operating against us, a time when life itself seems hopeless. A season where we are at the end of our wits (reasoning, and intellect) in other words when we cannot figure out a way to get ourselves out of the mess that we find ourselves in! This is a season that pushes us to a place where we want to give up and throw in the towel, because we have finally hit rock bottom, and it appears that there is no hope for us. It is a season when everything we do or try to do seems to fail, or fall short of expectation. We start to believe that we are in a season of defeat rather than a season of victory, and there appears to be no end to this season in sight. What we fail to realize is this is the exact time when we should trust God the most, because it's a time of total dependence on God to move on your behalf. A time when we finally realize that we need God to survive, and to navigate our way through this present life. We began to understand and accept that this present world is too evil and difficult to live, in the manner in which God desires His children to live. Without the daily guidance and help that God offers to all His children. However, to take advantage of God's offer to guide and help us, we must first trust Him unconditionally, without ever wavering or doubting His ability and willingness to help.

- **Isaiah 12: 2** Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.
- **Isaiah 41:10** Fear thou not; for I am with thee: e not dismayed; for I am they God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.
- **Luke 1:37** For with God nothing shall be impossible.
- **Hebrews 13:6** So that we may boldly say, THE LORD IS MY HELPER, AND I WILL NOT FEAR WHAT MAN SHALL DO UNTO ME.
- **1 Peter 5:6-7** Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. (7) Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.
- **Galatians 6:9** And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.
- **1 John 5:14-15** And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: (15) And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Even when we place our trust, and confidence in God, we must remember that God told us in His Word that in these last days there will be difficult times. Based on all the things that are taking place in the world today, we are truly living in the last days. However, God also told us that He will be a shelter of protection during these times of trouble.

2 Timothy 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

Nahum 1:7 The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.